

# **Montana Newsletter**

*Montana State Library*

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—*John C. Steller*

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# News

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UPDATE

Montana State Library

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February 1992

Update No. 24

**Both the State Library's operations budget and state aid to public libraries were cut by the special session of the State Legislature which met January 6-17.** State aid was distributed at 10.3 and 10.4 cents (the full amount approved) this first year of the biennium but was cut by a total of \$63,957. Half of the agency's fiscal 1993 operations budget cut was restored during the special session--from \$62,562 to \$31,281. Hence the additional \$30,000 materials budget cut approved by the State Library Commission on December 19 will not be necessary, but the yearly \$18,300 cut in the book budget still stands.

**The May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture will be given at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, 1992,** in the Gallatin and Jefferson Rooms at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman. Dr. Charlotte Huck will discuss, "Once you've learned it, you can do it forever." Developing Life-Time Readers. Huck, an author of children's books and textbooks on teaching literature-based reading in the classroom, is professor emeritus at Ohio State University, where there is an endowed chair in children's literature in her name. There is no charge for the lecture, which is co-sponsored by the State Library, the Montana Center for the Book and MLA.

**Bids for new equipment for the Butte-Silver Bow Public Library will be readvertised** on order of the Butte-Silver Bow Council of Commissioners. The library board had asked that only computer equipment bids be readvertised, but the commissioners included bids on a copier, typewriters, lounge furniture and microfilm reader/printers in their order. A local computer firm had complained that its low bids were being turned down in favor of name brands with higher prices. Library officials said they believed the name brands would be the most reliable.

**"Literacy--A Lasting Legacy" is the theme for the 1992 Montana Library Association Annual Conference,** to be held April 26-29 at the Holiday Inn/GranTree in Bozeman. Preregistration packets will be mailed out February 16; preregistration deadline is March 23. If you need a packet and don't receive one, contact either Liz Wallace or Kay Campeau at Bozeman Senior High Library, 205 N. 11th, Bozeman, MT, 59715, 406-585-1673.

**The Newbery and Caldecott winners for 1992 were announced during ALA's Midwinter Meeting** in late January in San Antonio. Winner of the 1992 Newbery Medal is *Shiloh*, by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor; honor books are *Nothing But the Truth*, by Avi, and *The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane*, by Russell Freedman. Winner of the 1992 Caldecott Medal is *Tuesday*, by David Wiesner; honor book is Faith Ringgold's *Tar Beach*.

**Laurel Egan, former children's librarian at Butte-Silver Bow Public Library,** has left her position after three years to work as a part-time medical librarian at St. James Community Hospital. Her successor is Nancy deBarathy, who had previously been children's librarian in Butte. The Lewis & Clark Library in Helena also has a new children's librarian. Candace Morris will start her new job this month.

**A special six-member committee appointed by the Library Services Advisory Council is at work** on the first draft of a new Montana long-range program for the improvement of library services. Those who want a copy of the first draft, which should be available sometime in March, need to request one from the State Library. Call Library Development, 444-5349, to get on the mailing list.

**An anonymous donor has given \$10,000 to the Missoula Public Library,** meaning approximately 800 additional new titles will be available to patrons this year. The gift brings the library's 1992 acquisitions budget to \$85,000. Director Dave Pauli said the library's book budget has grown by only about 14% since 1980, while inflation during the same period increased 45%.

**Plans for a new Whitefish public library are closer to reality now** that the Whitefish City Council has committed \$100,000 in matching money to the project. Supporters of the library project must raise \$50,000-100,000 more locally before applying for a federal library construction grant.



E B R U A R Y

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February	12	State Library Commission, Helena	April
March	6-7	OFFLINE Winter Retreat, Fairmont Hot Springs	16
	15-17	Fourth Annual Distance Learning Conference, Billings	5-11
		Freedom of Information Day	School Library Media Month
		National Library Week	Great American Read-Aoud/Night of a Thousand Stars
	8	Great American Read-Aoud/Night of a Thousand Stars	Library Services Advisory Council, Helena
	10	Arbutusnot Honor Lecture, Bozeman	Montana Library Association annual conference, Bozeman
	26	Arbutusnot Honor Lecture, Bozeman	State Library Commission, Bozeman
	26-29	Montana Library Association annual conference, Bozeman	29

The following meetings and events are scheduled for FEBRUARY/MARCH/APRIL:

Please make a note in your 1992 Montana Library Director-on-page 13, the fax number for Missoula Public Library should be 728-5900. Also, the Meagher County-City Library in White Sulphur Springs now has a fax number: 547-2250 (same as the library's phone number).

A promotional videotape produced in Missouri on the Young Readers Choice Award is available for interlibrary loan from the State Library. Call numbers 028.5 YOUNGVIDE 1992. (Votes for the 1992 YRCA will be collected at public and school libraries between March 1 and 15.)

The State Library's fiscal 1991 annual report, the 1992 SRP Manual for Librarians, the 1992 Events Calendar for Librarians and a new State Library brochure were mailed out in late January. A new publications policy states that the first two directoyer copies are free; additional copies are \$15 each.

The manual will also have a bibliography related to dragonflies, castles, magic, knights, etc., and arts and crafts projects suitable for both upper- and lower-grade children. A bibliography of non-print juvenile materials available through the library for the blind and physically handicapped will also be part of this year's manual. Some new attrications are being planned as well. A flyer will be sent to public and school librarians later this month about the SRP manual, those responding will get a free copy in March.

"Dragon Tales" is the theme for the 1992 statewide Summer Reading Program. Original art is being produced, and cameras-ready materials will be included in the 1992 SRP Manual for Librarians.